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24 March 1945

State, JCS declassification & release instructions on file

Mr. George Kennan
Policy Planning Staff
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. J. A. Morrison

Dear Mr. Kennan:

In connection with studies on availability of petroleum products to the United States Military Forces in event of war with the U.S.S.R., the Army-Navy Petroleum Board desires information on capabilities of enemy agents and anti-United States elements for reducing the amounts available.

It is requested that the Department of State provide the Army-Navy Petroleum Board with estimates of the presence of subversive elements and their capabilities in respect to the production, processing, storage and transportation of petroleum and petroleum products in the following areas:

- a. United Kingdom
- b. Canada
- c. Mexico
- d. Panama (only for Panamanian flag tankers)
- e. Venezuela
- f. Colombia
- g. Curacao
- h. Aruba
- i. Netherlands East Indies ✓
- j. Trinidad

The information to provide basis for plans covering availability during the initial phases of a war emergency should permit estimates on the following for the periods 3 day plus 1 month, plus 2 months, plus 3 months and plus 6 months exclusive of military installations and equipment:

- a. Percentage of loss of existing tanker transportation and tanker dock facilities.
- b. Percentage of loss of rail transportation.

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- c. Percentage of loss of petroleum pipeline transportation capacity.
- d. Percentage of loss of refining capacity.
- e. Percentage of loss of stocks and storage facilities.

To be of immediate assistance to the Army-Navy Petroleum Board, estimates should be received by 15 April 1948. If considered estimates are not available by that time, it is suggested that interim approximations be provided for planning purposes and that subsequent estimates or revisions be made available as developed.

Sincerely yours,

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G. H. VOSHL

Executive Officer